AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for connecting an implement to a prime mover, the apparatus comprising:

a connector that is mountable on the prime mover and has at least one recess for receiving a connecting pin mounted on the implement to enable the connector to engage the implement;

retaining means provided to, in use, hold the implement on the connector; and

means provided for, in use, mounting on the connector a retaining element positioned so that a head of the retaining element serves to retain the connecting pin in the recess, in event of failure or removal of the retaining means.

2. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the retaining element has a tail portion connected to the head and the connector has a formation in which the tail portion can be inserted and which serves to secure the retaining element on the connector with the head of the retaining element projecting into the recess adjacent the connecting pin.

3. (currently amended) ~~The apparatus according to claim 2,~~ An apparatus for connecting an implement to a prime mover, the apparatus comprising:

a connector that is mountable on the prime mover and has at least one recess for receiving a connecting pin mounted on the implement to enable the connector to engage the implement;

retaining means provided to, in use, hold the implement on the connector; and

means provided for, in use, mounting on the connector a retaining element positioned so that a head of the retaining element serves to retain the connecting pin in the recess,

wherein the retaining element has a tail portion connected to the head and the connector has a formation in which the tail portion can be inserted and which serves to secure the retaining element on the connector with the head of the retaining element projecting into the recess adjacent the connecting pin, and

wherein dimensions of the retaining element and the formation are such that there is a clearance between the head and the connecting pin which clearance is reduced when the retaining element is rotated after the tail portion has been inserted in the formation.

4. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the tail portion and the formation have a common axis about which the tail portion is rotated.

5. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein at least a portion of the head is larger than the formation so that the head is unable to enter the formation.

6. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the head has a face that bears on a face of the connector after the tail portion has been inserted in the formation.

7. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the face of the connector is at least partly located in the recess.

8. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the connector comprises spaced apart side walls joined together by a cross member that is prefabricated and in which the recess is formed before the cross member is joined to the side walls.

9. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the connector comprises spaced apart side walls

joined together by a cross member in the form of a plate that is bent to form before the cross member is joined to the side walls.

10. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the formation is formed in the cross member before the cross member is joined to the side walls.

11. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the connector has two recesses and the implement mounts two connecting pins, a first connecting pin being held, in use, in one recess by the retaining means and the means provided for, in use, mounting a retaining element is positioned so as to be in or adjacent the second recess which recess, in use, receives the second connecting pin.

12-13. (canceled)

14. (new) An apparatus for connecting an implement to a prime mover, the apparatus comprising:

a connector that is mountable on the prime mover and has at least one recess for receiving a connecting pin mounted on the implement to enable the connector to engage the implement;

retaining means provided to, in use, hold the implement on the connector; and

means provided for, in use, mounting on the connector a locking pin movable between, extended and withdrawn positions, such that with the locking pin in the extended position, the locking pin serves, in the event of failure or removal of the retaining means, serves to retain the connecting pin in the recess.

15. (new) The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the locking pin is extended and/or withdrawn by a ram.

16. (new) The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein movement of the locking pin is against a spring bias.

17. (new) The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the spring bias urges the locking pin into the extended position.

18. (new) The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the spring bias urges the locking pin into the withdrawn position.

19. (new) The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the locking pin has a face that bears on a face of the connector pin when the locking pin is in the extended position.

20. (new) The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the connector comprises spaced apart side walls joined together by a cross member that is prefabricated and in which the recess is formed before the cross member is joined to the side walls.

21. (new) The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the connector comprises spaced apart side walls joined together by a cross member in the form of a plate that is bent to form before the cross member is joined to the side walls.

22. (new) The apparatus according to claim 20 wherein the formation is formed in the cross member before the cross member ± joined to the side walls.

23. (new) The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the connector has two recesses and the implement mounts two connecting pins, a first connecting pin being held, in use, in one recess and a second connecting pin being held in the other recess by the retaining means, and the locking pin, in use, being positioned so as to be in or adjacent the other recess.